

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:405
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
DETERIORATION OF BIO-DIVERSITY
Suvendu Shri Adhikari

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the challenges thrown open by ever changing bio-diversity;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether steps have been taken to stem the deterioration in bio-diversity;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government proposes to set up any e-waste recycling plant in West Bengal; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (f):- A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 405 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.12.2010 REGARDING DETERIORATION OF BIO-DIVERSITY.

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the scientific studies that have found that globally, changes in biodiversity due to human activities have been occurring more rapidly in the past 50 years than at any time in human history.

(b) to (d) Some important measures taken by the Government for conservation of biodiversity of the country include: survey and inventorisation of floral and faunal resources (including digitization); assessment of forest cover to develop an accurate database for planning and monitoring; establishment of a Protected Area network; implementation of Joint Forest Management (JFM) Programme through more than 1.06 lakh JFM Committees covering an area of 22 mha; designating Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems; conservation of ecologically fragile areas such as mangroves, wetlands and coral reefs; implementing species-oriented conservation programmes; ex-situ conservation through setting up of botanic gardens, zoos, gene banks; enactment of the Biological Diversity Act in 2002, under which a National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards are set up for implementing the provisions of the Act; and formulation of a National Biodiversity Action Plan 2008.

(e) No, Sir. There is no proposal from West Bengal for setting up of e-waste recycling facility there.

(f) Does not arise.